Further, to provide special encouragement for newspapers published in languages like Bodo, Garhwali, Dogri, Kashmiri, Khasi, Konkani, Maithili, Manipuri, Mizo, Nepali, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Urdu and tribal languages/dialects, as certified by State Government or newspapers publised in J&K, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and North Eastern States, under the revised policy, they are now considered for empanelment after 6 months of regular and uninterrupted publication, as against 12 months under the old Policy and the number of paid circulation copies has been reduced from 2000 copies to 500.

(c) The total number of publication under the category of small newspapers empanelled with DAVP is 2274, as on 14.11.2007.

Completion of Panaji Doordarshan building

362. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) by what date the Panaji Doordarshan building under construction is proposed to be completed;

(b) whether the equipments required for the studio have been ordered;

(c) the expenditure proposed to be incurred towards the civil work of the building and expenditure towards the equipment; and

(d) by what date the new studio is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Doordarshan Studio building udner construction at Panaji is expected to be completed by December 2007.

(b) Action for procurement of equipment for the Studio is in progress.

(c) Estimated expenditure towards building construction is Rs. 87.23 lakhs & that towards equipment is Rs. 384 lakhs.

(d) New studio is likely to be commissioned by October 2008.

FM stations operating from Goa

363. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FM stations operating from Goa;

(b) the area in the State that these stations cover;

(c) whether it is a fact that these stations cater to listeners within a small radius;

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase their coverage;

(e) whether FM stations are allowed to broadcast news-bulletins;

(f) if not, whether there is any proposal to allow the FM broadcasters to broadcast news bulletins; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) At present there are one AIR FM station and three private FM radio stations operating from Goa. AIR FM station covers about 90% area of Goa state.

(d) Yes, Sir, In XI plan, Prasar Bharati has proposed to replace the AIR transmitter from present 6 Kw to 10 Kw FM Transmitter.

(e) to (g). Private FM broadcasters are not allowed to broadcast news and current affairs. Government does not propose to allow private FM Radio stations to broadcast news and current affairs, for the present.

However 10 identified AIR FM Rainbow channels and 4 AIR FM Gold channels broadcast News bulletins/News updates which are produced by News Services Division and Regional News Units of All India Radio.

Policy for approval of feature films and T.V. serials

364. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to State:

(a) the policy of Government for the approval of feature films and T.V. serials under various categories;

(b) whether Doordarshan have constituted Empowered Groups for screening and selecting of films and serials;

(c) the names of films and TV serials approved by the Empowered Group during the last one year;

(d) whether many serials approved by Empowered Group have not been given letters and financial support to producers in spite of approval; and

(e) if so, the details of such serials and by when the producers will be intimated of Doordarshan's decision?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that the feature films are procured from M/s. NFDC for telecast on Doordarshan National Network. They have informed that a new Film Policy of Hindi Feature Films has been finalised and notice has already been issued for inviting offers from the rights holders of the films. They have also informed that serials are also approved as per guidelines under different categories.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that no Empowered Group for screening of films has been constituted. However, feature films are being selected by Film Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, Prasar Bharati. DG, Doordarshan and Additional Director General (Accounts & Finance) are also members of this committee. Prasar Bharati has also informed that with regard to approval or rejection of SFC/Commissioned programmes/ Serials, an Empowered Committee has been constituted for final decision.

(c) A list of Serials approved by Empowered Committee during the last one year are at (Statement-I) and a list of Films approved by Film Selection Committee is at Statement-II. (*See* below)

(d) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that after final decision by Empowered Committee with regard to approval of programmes/serials, letters to all the concerned producers have been issued by them.

(e) Does not arise.